
From: Melanie Corfield [GRO]
Sent: Wed 21/11/2018 10:42:58 AM (UTC)
To: Mark R Davies [GRO]; Rodric Williams [GRO]; Ben Foat [GRO]; Bob Hammond [GRO]
Subject: RE: For action - F&O call on Thursday 2.15pm

Below are the words from the L300 call. Also the link to our latest internal comms materials (media statement, fact sheet and Qs and As) which are accessible to all on Sharepoint:

<https://poluk.sharepoint.com/sites/thehub/SitePages/Postmaster-litigation-against-Post-Office-%E2%80%93-High-Court-trial.aspx>

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- You will all be aware from previous calls and other internal communications, there is currently a trial underway in the High Court as part of a claim against Post Office by a group of mainly former postmasters. You might also have seen there has been some media coverage about this over the past couple of weeks and I thought it would be useful to provide a short update.
- A quick reminder of the background: There has been a long-running dispute between Post Office and the group of postmasters who have made serious allegations including claims about defects in Horizon and our processes that they say caused them losses they were wrongly held responsible for.
- The current trial is the first phase of this legal action against Post Office and is exploring contracts between Post Office and our agents. The trial started on 5 November and a number of former postmasters have now provided evidence and been cross-examined by our legal representatives. Post Office witnesses are now giving evidence – similarly being cross examined – and this will continue until the end of November. Following that, the lawyers for each side will present ‘closing submissions’ – summaries of their arguments – to the Judge who is determining the contractual matters in dispute. We do not know when there will be a Judgment about this part of the litigation.
- Further trials are scheduled to take place next year. A trial in March next year will examine technical matters about Horizon and there is expected to be a trial next summer, concerned with the detail of individual cases. So it is important to understand that this is complex litigation, involving a series of outcomes from the various phases, to progress to resolution of the claims. It will take some time and we will of course continue to keep you updated.
- This will obviously continue to be a subject of media interest. Coverage in mainstream media has so far been reasonably limited and, taken overall, balanced. It has reflected our position that we are robustly defending the claims being made by a very small percentage of people who have used Horizon over the past two decades. There does continue to be some less balanced social media. The traction of this is currently mainly limited to the campaigners who are driving it but we’re monitoring very closely.
- With Post Office people now providing evidence we might well see further interest and coverage. Our media statement with some background to the litigation and some Qs and As is on Sharepoint as I hope you have all seen. This can help you answer any questions you might receive but please, as I’ve said before, do contact me if you have any issues or concerns.

From: Mark R Davies
Sent: 20 November 2018 20:23
To: Rodric Williams [GRO] Ben Foat [GRO] Melanie Corfield
[GRO] Bob Hammond [GRO]
Subject: Re: For action - F&O call on Thursday 2.15pm

Just adding Mel and Bob - Mel to provide the L300 words for Bob.

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From: Rodric Williams [GRO]
Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 7:29 pm
To: Ben Foat; Mark R Davies
Subject: RE: For action - F&O call on Thursday 2.15pm

Thanks Ben.

Mark – please let me know if you need anything further from the legal team in court (we have of course been keeping in touch with Mel as the trial has progressed).

Rod

From: Ben Foat
Sent: 20 November 2018 18:14
To: Mark R Davies [GRO] Rodric Williams [GRO]
Subject: FW: For action - F&O call on Thursday 2.15pm

Both

Al is keen to reinforce the POL position regarding the Group Litigation given there is a lot on social media etc but wants to ensure that POL employees are aligned to our message. I did mention that there is a comms pack around this and I thought it would be helpful to circulate to him so he can get comfort to his employees but also ensuring that we are aligned to the same message and/or not commenting on areas that we don't want to be commenting upon.

Are you able to provide this comms?

Kind regards
Ben



Ben Foat

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[GRO]



The Post Office Legal Team was awarded a High Commendation for Excellence in Inhouse Legal Services in 2018 by the Law Society.

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From: Alisdair Cameron

Sent: 20 November 2018 15:56

To: Bob Hammond [GRO] Julie Thomas [GRO] Russell Hancock [GRO] Ian Namey [GRO] Michael Passmore [GRO] Alistair Roman [GRO] Barbara Brannon [GRO] Somita Yogi [GRO] Joe Arakji [GRO] Ben Foat [GRO]

Cc: Ruth Phillips [GRO] Andrew Preston [GRO]

Subject: Re: For action - F&O call on Thursday 2.15pm

Performance
Systems thinking
Customers
GLO and political "noise"
People awards - remind me who I am congratulating for what please

Thanks Al

Alisdair Cameron
Chief Finance & Operating Officer

20 Finsbury Street
London
EC2Y 9AQ

[GRO]

From: Bob Hammond [GRO]

Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2018 9:54 am

Subject: For action - F&O call on Thursday 2.15pm

To: Alisdair Cameron [GRO] Julie Thomas [GRO] Russell Hancock [GRO] Ian Namey [GRO] Michael Passmore [GRO] Alistair Roman [GRO] Barbara Brannon [GRO] Somita Yogi [GRO] Joe Arakji [GRO] Ben Foat [GRO]

Cc: Ruth Phillips [GRO] Andrew Preston [GRO]

Hi all, we're opening up sli.do now for advance questions for the monthly F&O call on Thurs afternoon.

Can you get back to me please with anything you want to cover during the 'round-the-table' bit of the call – just send me the topic headings, and you can elaborate on the call.

I need this **by Wednesday 11am** so that I can circulate some brief slides to people in good time.

Al – can you send me a list of what you'd like to cover.

Joe – can you do the same for your 'people stuff'.

Agenda is:

- Al overview – Al
- Group litigation - Al
- Round-the-table - All
- People stuff – Joe
- Dialogue sessions – Bob
- Q&A

Please keep your updates brief and to the point – we only have 45 mins max cor the call and the idea is to maximise the time for questions!

Cheers

Bob



Bob Hammond

Communication Business Partner – Finance and Operations

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GRO